

ADECA

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs



Meeting the Challenges of a Growing Alabama

2006 - 2008 Annual Report

Gulf of Mexico

Meeting the Challenges of a Growing Alabama

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Bob Riley
GOVERNOR



State of Alabama



Bob Riley
Governor

A Message from Governor Bob Riley

Today, the United States is in the grip of the most serious economic crisis we have faced in decades. While Alabama cannot fully escape the impact, our state is better positioned than most to weather the storm.

In the past several years, Alabama has prospered like never before in our history. The growth we experienced was not an accident nor was it the work of a few individuals. It required leadership, dedication and hard work from people in every corner of the state.

Conscientious Alabamians, demonstrating enormous ability and pride in a job well done, have shown the world that our workforce is second to none. Civic and government leaders, striving to improve their communities and regions, have functioned as a coordinated team playing to win.

It has been amazing to see local and state leaders lift town limits and county lines to work in a spirit of cooperation. Where once there was fierce competition, we now see true leaders – though fiercely proud of their individual communities – sharing resources and talents to recruit commerce and industry and improve regional assets. Indeed, we have learned that the benefits of new and expanding businesses aren't confined by borders.

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs has played, and will continue to play, a vital role in building our great state. Whenever and wherever the need has arisen, employees at ADECA have stepped up to get the job done.

Economic development grants have laid the foundation for new and expanding industries to employ more people. Workforce development funding has ensured that Alabamians receive the necessary training to meet the demands of the workplace and enable Alabama companies to compete successfully in the global economy.

Community development grants ensure that Alabama communities are supplied with safe and efficient water and sewage facilities, proper drainage and roads. Trail and recreation grants enhance the quality of our communities and contribute to the wellness and fitness of Alabamians.

Law enforcement grants are designed to keep our communities and highways safe. ADECA energy grants help us conserve energy and strive for alternative energy sources.

This report highlights only a few of the accomplishments of ADECA, but even if every achievement by the department was listed there would still be no way to adequately measure its positive impact on Alabama. Not every community received a grant to build a ball field or improve a water line, but I am confident of this: All of us have benefitted in some way from the work being conducted at ADECA.

Our nation continues to face economic headwinds, but I look forward to working with ADECA to provide Alabama residents the tools to build a better tomorrow. I am confident the drive and ambition that created our impressive economic growth also gives Alabamians the ability to meet and overcome any challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Riley".

Bob Riley
Governor

BOB RILEY
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALABAMA



Bill JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

Support, strengthen, secure—there are bigger words in the dictionary, but few that carry as much weight and responsibility.

These are words we live by every day at ADECA. They are our focus and our goal. They represent our commitment to meeting the challenges of a growing Alabama.

On behalf of the Governor, we administer grants that support economic development and new jobs; grants that strengthen public health with expanded recreational opportunities; and grants that secure the community by supplying law enforcement officers with vital equipment and resources. In short, ADECA makes Alabama a better place to live.

Every Alabama resident has felt the impact of ADECA. Our energy programs help the state to reduce its dependence on foreign oil and make better use of energy resources within our own borders. The department's recreation programs assist cities and counties in providing trails and parks that improve the quality of life.

ADECA's law enforcement division assists state troopers and police to take dangerous drivers off the roads. Our workforce development programs help Alabamians who lose jobs through no fault of their own get training for new and challenging careers while other programs encourage youth to obtain the skills necessary to succeed when entering the job market.



ADECA
Assistant Director
Doni M. Ingram

I am very proud of the work ADECA employees have done to improve our state. I am prouder still of the way Alabama is meeting the many challenges of a changing world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Johnson".

ADECA Director

Energy

Terri Adams, Division Director

- Telecommunications Technology Assistance Program
- Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)
- Energy Emergency and Assurance Program
- State Building Energy Efficiency Program
- Local Government Energy Loan Program
- Agriculture Energy Efficiency Program
- Alternative Transportation Fuels Program
- State Energy Program
- Energy-Efficient Homes Program
- ENERGY STAR® Program
- Recycling Program
- Building Energy Codes Program
- Biomass Energy Program
- Energy Education Program
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety

Robert H. Pruitt, Division Director

- Family Violence and Victims' Programs
- Law Enforcement Programs
- Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities
- Highway Traffic Safety
- Juvenile Justice
- Corrections

Community and Economic Development Programs

Shabbir Olia, Programs Manager

- Economic Development
- Competitive Grants
- Special Projects
- Community Enhancement
- Community Service Block Grants
- Community Action Agencies
- Emergency Shelter Grants
- Community Food and Nutrition
- Planning Grants

Workforce Development Division

Steve Walkley, Division Director

- Workforce Investment Act
- Career Readiness Certificate Initiative
- Alabama's Career Center System
- Alabama Customized Employment Program
- Focused Industry Training
- Incumbent Worker Training
- Rapid Response
- Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development

Granting Entities

Support Entities

Other Entities

Organizational Chart as of
September 30, 2007



Legislative Oversight Commission

The Legislative Oversight Commission was a part of the 1983 Act which created the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs—Act 83-194. The commission is composed of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance and Taxation, three members of the Senate appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee and three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House.

House



*Chairperson
Alan Boothe*



John Knight



Jack Page



Jack Williams



Tammy Irons

Senate



Roger Bedford



Bobby Denton



Phil Poole



Bobby Singleton



Ted Little

ABA Community and Economic Development Programs

MISSION

To distribute block grant funds through an effective and efficient means to promote the development of economically viable communities and a suitable living environment by creating sound and adequate public facilities, utilities, infrastructure, housing and job opportunities.

Programs Administered

- Economic Development Grants
- Competitive Grants
- Planning Grants
- Community Enhancement Grants
- Community Service Block Grants
- Community Action Agencies
- Emergency Shelter Grants
- Community Food and Nutrition

Community and Economic Development Programs Section Supplies Funding to Provide Jobs and Reduce Poverty

When a tornado ripped through the Hamilton Crossroads community on Nov. 15, 2006, it did more than cause destruction in the area; it threatened to take away jobs.

Although the community was fortunate to escape with no deaths or injuries, the tornado did topple a water tank operated by the Pike County Water Authority and destroyed a private manufacturing business. While the water authority was able to maintain water supplies to the community, water pressure was insufficient for fire-fighting capabilities and operating needs of the manufacturer and another industry in the vicinity.

Production Components Manufacturing, a metal fabricator, had been destroyed in the tornado and was required to move into a nearby vacant building. The other industry, Carter Brothers Manufacturing Co. Inc., which produces go-carts and off-road buggies, had been destroyed by fire six years earlier. Both manufacturers combined have about 100 employees.

The Pike County Commission applied for and received a \$200,000 Community Development Block Grant to rebuild the 300,000-gallon water tank ensuring the preservation of about 100 jobs and restoring water pressure to the community.

ADECA's Community and Economic Development Programs Section is charged with the responsibility of administering the state's CDBG program. Funding for the program is provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The program, established in 1974, is intended to address a wide range of needs, particularly

projects benefiting communities with low-and moderate-income families.

ADECA issued grants have gone toward supplying safe water, ensuring proper drainage, improving or building sewer lines and systems, paving roads and providing areas with community and senior centers. CDBG funding also has been used to provide



Community Development Block Grants help supply safe water to many people in rural communities.

used to provide infrastructure for new or expanding industries.

Community Development Block Grants are awarded through several avenues including competitive grants, economic development grants, community enhancement grants, special project grants and planning grants. Larger Alabama cities receive Community Development Block Grant funding directly from HUD, but also are eligible to receive special CDBG grants issued through ADECA.

The city of Aliceville was among several communities to receive a CDBG planning award. These grants enable towns and cities to address major community needs, including zoning, transportation, future development patterns and downtown redevelopment.

The Community and Economic Development Programs Section also administers Community Service Block Grants which are awarded to help low-income residents through educational and other programs that will help lift people out of poverty.



CED staffers hold a number of workshops during year on funding programs

Other grants are intended to upgrade housing or assist homeless and domestic abuse shelters in providing adequate space for the needy. CED also provides funding for regional programs that supply nutritional meals to senior citizens.



Local officials break ground on a new senior center in Eclectic. The construction of the center was made possible with CDBG funding.

Alabama Workforce Development

MISSION

To provide a market-driven system that delivers services to employers, employees and jobseekers using an innovative and comprehensive approach, which will provide employers with a prepared workforce to enhance the state's economic development and quality of life.

Programs Administered

- Workforce Investment Act
- Alabama's Career Center System
- Alabama Customized Employment Program
- Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development
- Rapid Response
- Focused Industry Training
- Career Readiness Certificate Initiative
- Incumbent Worker Training

Worker Training Grant Helps Madison Company Remain Competitive in Global Economy

The global marketplace constantly requires companies to adapt new technology and methods to reduce production costs and increase efficiency. Alabama workers must continually acquire new skills to help their companies keep pace with competition and avoid layoffs.

ADECA's Workforce Development Division's Incumbent Worker Training Program helps Alabama companies remain competitive and meet challenges through training employees to streamline production and reduce costs. For workers, the training upgrades job skills, heightens job security, provides marketable skills and increases the possibilities for promotions and higher wages.

As a relatively small Alabama company competing in today's fast-paced global economy, Madison-based Thermal Corp. needed to upgrade the skills of its 33 employees to attain an important certification. The company makes temperature sensors and heaters used in factories to mold plastic and steel.

As more and more automotive suppliers move into Alabama and the Southeast, many have become Thermal Corp. customers. Most automotive suppliers requested that Thermal Corp. be

certified by the International Organization for Standardization, a widely recognized certification establishing that a company has a system to manage quality in the production process.

"ISO (certification) is becoming required by many companies around the world, especially in automobile-related industries," said Jim Dixon, Thermal Corp.'s vice president of engineering. "More customers are expecting us to have certification."

Although certification became a priority, the company did not have the funding for the training

and consulting needed to complete the almost year-long process. New hope came when the company learned about assistance available through the Incumbent Worker Training Program. In March 2007, Thermal Corp. received a \$48,135 grant from ADECA to help pay the training cost.

"The training was absolutely essential to help us attain certification," Dixon said.

During the training, workers learned new ways to improve the company's production process. Dixon said the training has already reduced manufacturing costs and increased production efficiency.

"The training helps our workers gain more skills



An Incumbent Worker Training grant from ADECA's Workforce Development Division helped workers at Madison-based Thermal Corp. upgrade their job skills and help their company meet the challenge of remaining competitive in the global economy.

and puts them in a position to take advantage of expected growth,” Dixon said.

After workers completed the training, Thermal Corp. underwent an extensive certification audit and is expected to soon earn ISO certification, putting the company ahead of many of its competitors.

“This is probably the most significant thing that’s happened to this company in 11 years,”

Career Center on Wheels Brings Help to Displaced Workers in Valley

When Westpoint Home announced the closing of two plants in Valley, it meant 850 workers were about to lose their jobs. While the workers faced the uncertainties of imminent job loss, the increasing number of jobs in Alabama’s growing automotive industry and other industries meant workers with the proper training and educational levels could begin new careers.

Through Alabama One-Stop Career Centers, the Workforce Development Division helps laid-off workers apply for job training and assistance in obtaining their GED or other educational certifications needed to qualify for the jobs in new industries. The centers also help workers apply for jobs.

The only problem for some Westpoint Home workers was that the nearest Career Center was in Opelika, about 30 miles south of Valley and a difficult drive for some. Thanks to a new tool, the Workforce Development Division was able to bring the Career Center to the workers.

The division’s new Mobile Career Center stayed on-site at the WestPoint plants for two weeks enabling workers to ask questions and apply for jobs, job training and other assistance on-site. The converted bus is a Career Center on wheels that features 15 computers with Internet access, an interview room and a 42-inch video monitor that can be used to conduct training sessions. The Workforce Development Division began using the bus in summer 2007 for workers at locations without a Career Center. The bus also is used to help workers who lose their jobs during a natural disaster.

“It was like having a Career Center on site,” said Peggy Bridges of the Opelika One-Stop Career Center. Staff members from the Opelika center manned the bus to help the workers.

“It was open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and workers would come by during their breaks,”

Dixon said.

From Oct. 1, 2006 to Sept. 30, 2007, ADECA awarded 52 grants totaling \$1.9 million through the Incumbent Worker Training Program. That number fell significantly to 11 grants totaling \$390,068 in 2008 because much of the Department of Labor funding was allocated to other work-related programs within Alabama.

Bridges said.

At the mobile center, staff members assisted 587 workers by providing important insurance and unemployment compensation information and registering them for Alabama JobLink, a Web site featuring job opportunities submitted to Alabama Career Centers.

“The mill workers were glad to have it on-site,” Bridges said. “They asked a lot of questions one-on-one.”

The workers also learned about educational opportunities and were able to submit forms necessary to start job-training programs that could qualify them for higher-paying jobs. Workers also used the center’s computers to apply for jobs online.



The Workforce Development Division’s new Mobile Career Center brings on-site assistance to workers who need to find a new job because of layoffs or a natural disaster. The career center on wheels features 15 computers with Internet access, an interview room and a 42-inch video monitor that can be used to conduct training sessions.

“Some applied for jobs at the Kia plant in West Point, (Ga.) which you can only do online and only once per year,” Bridges said.

With the help of the Mobile Career Center, many of the Westpoint workers are on the path to careers in Alabama’s growing high-tech industries.



MISSION

To plan, coordinate, develop and manage Alabama's ground and surface water resources in a manner that is in the best interest of the state by recommending policies and legislation, conducting technical studies, implementing programs and projects and actively representing Alabama's intra- and interstate water resource interests.

Programs Administered

- Floodplain Management Program
- Geographic Information System Program
- Water Management Program
- Interstate Support Program

OWR Monitors Challenges Posed by Drought Situation in Alabama

"It's hot and dry."

That was a familiar refrain as the South's worsening drought made headlines throughout the spring, summer and fall of 2007. With crop losses, water restrictions, burn bans and lower water levels, the drought took a significant toll on many Alabama industries and water systems.

While no one can make it rain, the Office of Water Resources continues to monitor the drought's impact on the state and ensure that industries and water systems are kept informed of the changing conditions.

For most individuals, a drought can mean a brown lawn, but continually dry conditions can adversely affect many industries, including pulp and paper mills that depend on water from Alabama's rivers. If river levels reach a certain low point, it can mean the loss of hundreds of jobs as the mills are forced to shut down.

As the state agency responsible for the planning, coordination, development and management of Alabama's water resources, the OWR monitored drought conditions and kept water systems, pulp and paper mills, and other users of large amounts of water informed of the drought situation throughout the summer and into the fall.

As part of the drought response under the

Alabama Drought Management Plan, OWR convened the Alabama Drought Assessment and Planning Team, a specialized group to guide drought management activities in the state.

ADAPT was established by executive order in 2002 with the OWR director as chairman to advise the governor and OWR regarding the development and implementation of the state's drought response. The team is made up of representatives of several state agencies with an interest in water resources including the departments of Agriculture and Industries, Environmental Management, Conservation and Natural Resources and the Forestry Commission. Representatives from Alabama Power, the Alabama Farmer's Federation,

the federal government and the pulp and paper industry are also part of the team.

"The first ADAPT meeting was held on May 24, 2007, and we've been meeting at least monthly ever since, with the subcommittees meeting more often," OWR Director Brian Atkins said.

The team is divided into two subcommittees: the Monitoring and Analysis Group and the Drought Impact Group.

The MAG collects and analyzes climatic, meteorological, hydrological and soil moisture data.



Lake Martin was one of several reservoirs in the state that experienced a significant drop in water levels due to the drought.



As the dry conditions worsened through the spring of 2007, the Office of Water Resources convened the Alabama Drought Assessment and Planning Team, a specialized group to guide drought management activities in the state.

The DIG assesses the impacts of the drought on agriculture, recreation, industry, the environment and the water supply.

Since the first ADAPT meeting, OWR issued three drought advisory declarations for the state. Based on a review of water data, OWR sent the advisories to users of more than 100,000 gallons of water per day, who are required to register with the agency. The advisories also urged Alabamians to use water wisely and conserve where possible.

“These are industries and water systems that use a large amount of water daily and can be the first to be affected by lower water levels,” Atkins said.

Media outlets across the state also received the advisories to keep Alabama residents up-to-date on the situation in their area. By August, 53 of



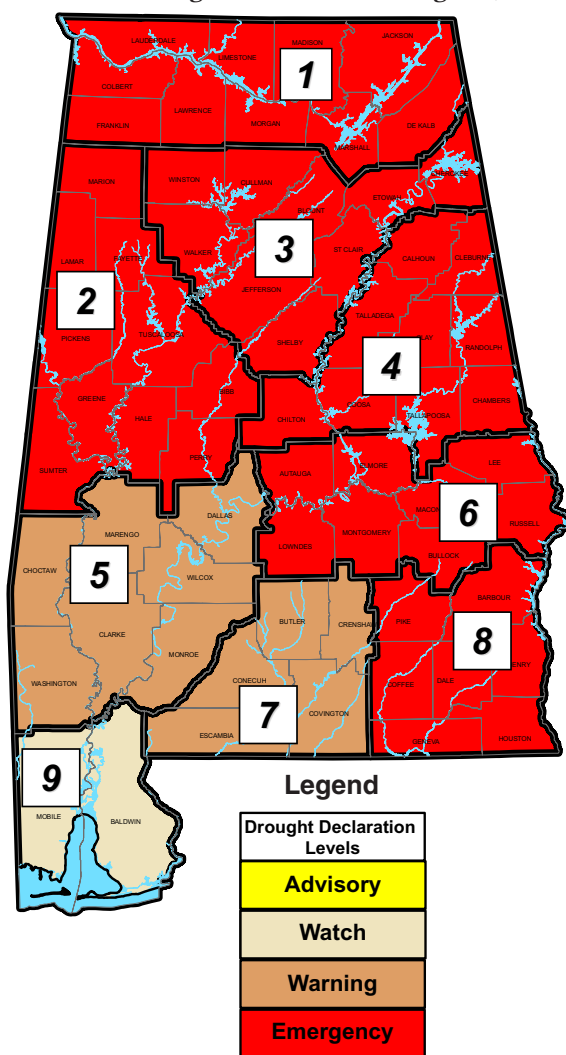
Many media outlets covered the Drought Assessment and Planning Team’s first meeting in May 2007. As the drought progressed throughout the summer, the Office of Water Resources issued periodic drought advisories to keep Alabama residents up-to-date on the situation in their area.

Alabama’s 67 counties were in drought emergency status, the most severe drought declaration, with 12 more counties in drought warning status – the next most severe category.

Atkins said that through ADAPT the representatives of different industries who depend heavily on water can communicate their needs and concerns about the drought to one another.

In addition to drought monitoring and planning, the office serves as the state’s liaison with federal agencies concerning major water-related projects and acts on behalf of the state in ongoing litigation with Georgia, Florida and the U.S. government to ensure that Alabama’s water interests are protected. OWR also is developing and updating maps depicting flood-zone areas in Alabama. The maps play a big role in the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s National Flood Insurance program by pinpointing areas most likely to flood during heavy rains.

Alabama Drought Declaration Aug. 15, 2007



OWR released this drought declaration to water systems and media outlets across the state at the height of the drought.



MISSION

To increase energy efficiency, reduce energy consumption, encourage and promote market acceptance of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies: to help limited income households better manage energy bills through education and assistance, and to encourage access to advanced telecommunication services in rural areas.

Programs Administered

- Telecommunications Technology Assistance Program
- Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)
- Energy Emergency and Assurance Program
- State Buildings Energy Efficiency Program
- Local Government Energy Loan Program
- Agriculture Energy Efficiency Program
- Alternative Transportation Fuels Program
- Energy Efficiency in Rural Water Systems
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Electronics Recycling
- Biomass Energy Program
- ENERGY STAR® Program
- State Energy Program
- Building Energy Codes Program
- Energy-Efficient Homes Program
- Energy Education Program
- School Retrofit Program

'Clean Corridor' Grants Make Alternative Fuels Available to Motorists Along I-65

Alabama is no longer a dry spot on the biofuel map thanks to a project that has made ethanol and biodiesel fuel blends available to motorists traveling along the state's portion of Interstate 65.

Alternative fuel pumps were put in service at several points along the interstate in Alabama as part of the I-65 Clean Corridor project. The \$1.3 million multi-state project makes E85 ethanol and B20 biodiesel commercially available from Mobile to Gary, Ind. – the entire length of the interstate. The project ensures that motorists will never be more than a quarter of a tank away from an E85 or B20 biodiesel pump when traveling the interstate. E85 is a fuel comprised of 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline while B20 is a blend of 20 percent biodiesel and 80 petroleum diesel.

ADECA's Energy Division received a \$312,000 grant from the U.S. Energy Department to place and market five E85 and five B20 pumps along the interstate in Alabama. The funds helped merchants cover up to 50 percent of the preparation cost necessary for the retail distribution of alternative fuels. The Energy Division partnered with the Alabama Clean

Fuels Coalition to hold information workshops about the grant opportunity. Gov. Bob Riley announced the stations receiving the grants in late 2007.

Alternative fuel pumps are now open at stations in the Montgomery, Mobile, Birmingham and Athens areas. Biofuel pumps also are planned at stations in the Evergreen-Greenville, Cullman and Decatur-Huntsville areas as part of the project.

"With the opening of the I-65 Clean Corridor, our state took an important step toward wider commercial availability of biofuels," ADECA Director

Bill Johnson said. "We believe Alabama has the potential to become a leader in the biofuels industry and have made the promotion of biofuels a priority for our department."

The I-65 Clean Corridor project is just one of the ways the Energy Division is working to increase the development, production and availability

of alternative fuels in Alabama. Plans are being made to offer alternative fuels along several heavily traveled east-west corridors in Alabama. The division also is assisting public school systems wishing to use B20 with the costs of cleaning underground fuel storage tanks for the biofuel blend.



Charles Ball, ADECA's Bill Johnson, Gov. Riley, David Tidwell, Ken McPherson

Weatherization Assistance Program

Being comfortable in Annie Beacher's Grady home was difficult. In the summer she was hot. In the winter she was cold.

Then she applied for a weatherization assistance grant through the Central Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission.

ADECA receives funding from the U.S. Department of Energy and contracts with community action agencies and local non-profits throughout Alabama to provide weatherization assistance grants to low-income citizens; priority is given to the elderly, the disabled and families with children.

As a result of the grant

she received, Beacher's home received attic insulation, caulking around windows and doors, and sealing of major attic bypasses and holes in the home's envelope. In addition, energy-efficient light bulbs and smoke and carbon monoxide detectors were installed. During the initial

inspection, a natural gas leak in the water heater also was discovered and repaired.

Beacher said the improvements have made positive differences in her environment and budget.

"I can really tell the difference in how much more comfortable I feel in my house," she said.



Technicians monitor the energy efficiency of an older house.

School Retrofit Program

For many, life has not been easy in Alabama's Black Belt counties. The line of more than a dozen counties stretching across Alabama's midsection is known for its high poverty and school dropout rates, inadequate health care and excessive unemployment.

Energy is doing its part to improve the quality



Story time got a lot "brighter" at Clark Elementary School in Selma with energy-efficient lighting upgrades provided by ADECA's School Retrofit Program

of life in the area; providing energy efficiency upgrades for 12 schools in the region over the past two years. Through the School Retrofit Program, schools have received new heating and air conditioning units, brighter and more energy-efficient lighting and additional insulation to save energy costs.

Renewable Energy Program

ADECA's Renewable Energy Program promotes the adoption of renewable energy technologies in Alabama as a method to increase energy security and environmental sustainability. The Energy Division works to raise consumer awareness and acceptance of available biofuel, biomass, solar and biogas technologies through the demonstration of renewable energy technologies and active outreach.



Agriculture Energy Program

The Agriculture Energy Program assists the agriculture industry in reducing energy costs and increasing production. Through funding from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), this program provides education and financial assistance for the implementation of energy efficiency technologies and equipment and renewable energy solutions for agriculture.



Alternative Transportation Fuels Program

The Alternative Transportation Fuels Program encourages and promotes the production and use of alternative transportation fuels as a way to increase the overall efficiency of the transportation system, improve air quality and promote energy independence.

Surplus Property

MISSION

To acquire property declared surplus by state agencies and the United States government and redistribute it fairly and equitably for use by local governments and eligible Alabama organizations.

Programs Administered

- State and Federal Property Collection
- Public Auctions
- Transfers to Governments, Non-profits

Surplus Property Provides Communities with Economical Equipment to Make Improvements

Buyers can find almost any item for sale at ADECA's Surplus Property Division. Red tape is not one of them.

The division's primary purpose is to acquire items and equipment declared surplus by state and federal agencies and sell them at greatly reduced costs to other Alabama and local governments and non-profit organizations. However, merchandise is sold to the public after a certain period.

The division acquires and sells property no longer used by Alabama and U.S. governmental agencies. The division also has a contract with the federal Transportation Security Administration to transport and sell items confiscated at airports in Alabama and Florida.

Main beneficiaries are schools, law enforcement agencies and other Alabama and local governments and non-profit agencies which can purchase needed items and equipment at greatly reduced prices. Purchasing the low-cost items, which can include anything from heavy machinery to furniture to basic office supplies, is especially helpful to towns and cities with small budgets; it enables them to put more taxpayer dollars to work in other needed areas.

The division's ability to sell to the public and the amount of revenue collected was greatly enhanced when the division began auctioning items on the Internet. Surplus Property has several Internet outlets including eBay and Govdeals.com

"We have found that we can sell a lot more volume through Internet auctions," said Jeff VanGilder, who manages the division's Internet program. "Basically everything we put up for auction on eBay has been sold, and we are expanding to

other auction sites. There is so much more potential through Internet sales. Really, there is no limit."

Purchases have been made from as far away as Australia and Europe, and since buyers are required to pay for shipping there is no additional cost to Surplus Property.

Unlike its in-house auctions open to the public, items sold on the Internet are often sold individually and not in bulk. That means someone can buy a single file cabinet in excellent condition instead of three or four that includes one in good condition and the others with dents or missing handles.

The division, which has warehouses in Montgomery and Morgan County, still intends to conduct its public auctions three times a year. The auctions attract buyers from throughout the eastern United States.



ADECA's Jeff VanGilder says Surplus Property's linking with eBay has been a successful venture.



Alabama Department of Econom



ic and Community Affairs Staff

Program Integrity

MISSION

To safeguard public funds administered by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs through technical assistance, on-site compliance reviews and project inspections to ensure that all intended services are delivered.

Program Integrity Works with Surplus Property to Make Purchases Easier

Small-town governments and non-profit agencies provide many essential services to their residents and clients. Though responsible for vital services, the governments and agencies often operate on limited financial resources. When equipment is needed, many times there is no room in the budget.

ADECA's Surplus Property Division is working to make it easier for small governments and non-profit agencies to purchase property declared surplus by state and federal agencies by creating a new operations plan, and ADECA's Program Integrity Unit is assisting. A recent state law allows small non-profit agencies and small towns to make smaller, timed

payments that lessens the burdens on their budgets. The change enables them to purchase large equipment like vehicles and tractors necessary to conduct day-to-day business. Program Integrity assisted Surplus Property in drafting legislation allowing smaller payments.

"Before, these non-profits and small towns had to purchase property with one lump sum payment," said Paula Murphy, Program Integrity manager.

The Program Integrity Unit also helps ensure that recipients of ADECA grants are following state and federal laws and looks into complaints.

Audit

MISSION

To provide financial monitoring through reviews or special audits of ADECA grant recipients, provide technical assistance and training to ADECA program managers and grantees and conduct internal reviews of operations, processes and systems to enhance efficiency and effectiveness and verify compliance.

Audit Section Monitors Use of ADECA Grant Funds

ADECA awards grants for many programs and projects designed to meet the challenges of a growing Alabama. Some of the grants help cities and counties add infrastructure to spur economic development. ADECA's Audit Section is responsible for ensuring that grant recipients are using the funds in the manner described in their grant application.

As part of their grant agreement, recipients of ADECA grants of \$500,000 or more must undergo an audit of the project or program funded by the award each year to ensure grant funds are used appropriately. The audits are performed by certified public accountants hired by grant recipients who then submit their reports to the Audit Section.

To help accountants perform their audits ac-

curately, ADECA's Audit Section participates in yearly governmental auditing training sessions held by the University of North Alabama at three locations around the state. Audit staff members attend the sessions and work with the trainers to ensure that accountants have an understanding of how to complete an audit to submit to ADECA.

"We give them tips on how to avoid common problems, answers to frequently asked questions and other information to help them get us the data we need," said Wendy Hester, ADECA's audit manager. "The training helps minimize mistakes and helps us avoid having to send the audit back for correction."

Hester said that about 200 single-grant audits are completed and submitted to the Audit Section each year.

ABA Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety

MISSION

To increase safety and quality of life by encouraging professional planning and innovative programs for Alabama's criminal justice system, addressing traffic safety problems, assisting child and domestic abuse victims, supporting drug/violent crime prevention programs, juvenile crime prevention programs and drug task force operations.

Programs Administered

- Family Violence and Victims' Programs
- Corrections
- Highway Traffic Safety
- Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities
- Juvenile Justice
- Law Enforcement Programs

Improving Highway Safety is Goal of 'Click It or Ticket' Campaign

Safe, reliable highways are essential to commerce. To help Alabama meet the challenge of improving highway safety, LETS' Highway Traffic Safety Section provides funding for "Click It or Ticket," a statewide law enforcement campaign held over a two-week period in late May.

Organized nationally by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the campaign's goal is to get more drivers and passengers to wear their seat belts to reduce injuries and fatalities in car crashes. When Alabama began participating in the campaign in 2000, the seat belt usage rate was 70.6 percent. The rate has steadily improved and remains one of the highest usage rates in the nation. In 2007 Alabama's seat-belt use rate was 82.3 percent. The rate increased to 86.1 percent in 2008.

LETS administered a total of about \$1.2 million in grants in 2007 and approximately \$1 million in 2008 for the "Click It or Ticket" campaigns. The grants were used for a statewide media campaign and seat belt use surveys. LETS also awarded grants to the state's nine Community Traffic Safety offices for increased patrols by law enforcement officers across Alabama.

A few weeks before the enforcement campaign starts, public service announcements are aired on television and radio to make Alabamians aware of "Click It or Ticket" and encourage them to buckle up. The highway safety offices work with media in their areas to spread the word about the campaign.

The Central Alabama Highway Safety Office, which covers eight south-central counties, put up

billboard advertisements about the campaign and organized media events and mock checkpoints where officers gave information about the campaign to motorists.

"We go on TV and do a news conference and say for these 14 days we are going be out focusing on the seat belt laws," said Carlos Kimbrough, traffic safety coordinator for the Central Alabama Highway Safety Office. "We are changing habitual behavior."

The Central Alabama Highway Safety Office works with local police and sheriff's departments

in Autauga, Bullock, Dallas, Elmore, Lee, Lowndes and Montgomery counties.

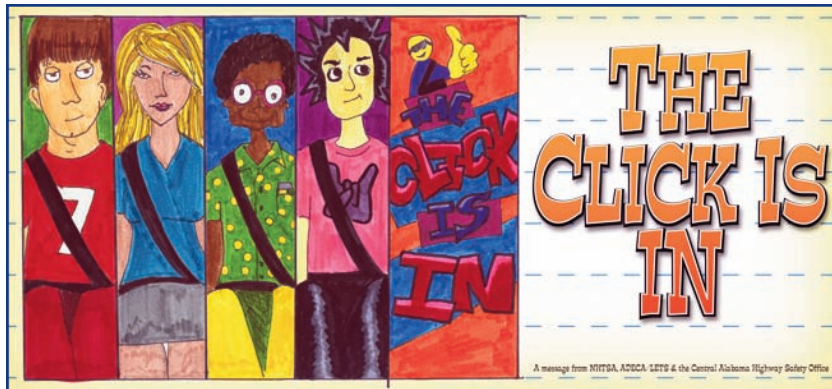
"The office administers all the operations plans for the campaign and motivates police departments to enforce the seat belt law," Kimbrough said.



Grants from ADECA's Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division helped police and sheriff's departments across the state put more officers on the road during the "Click It or Ticket" campaigns. LETS coordinates the state's participation in the national campaign to get more drivers and passengers to wear their seat belts to reduce injuries and fatalities in car crashes.

In addition to coordinating the campaign, the safety office also used \$55,448 in grant funds awarded by ADECA to pay overtime wages for increased patrols to enforce seat belt laws during “Click It or Ticket.” For the 2007 campaign, the office administered overtime funds to 18 law enforcement agencies. Kimbrough said the office determined the amount of grant funds agencies in each county were to receive by examining traffic crash data from each county. The counties with the most crashes were awarded the highest percentages of the overtime funds.

“They love the grant money,” Kimbrough said. “They get to put additional people out on the street.”



The Central Alabama Traffic Safety Office used this billboard to promote awareness of seat-belt safety during a recent “Click It or Ticket” campaign.

While the campaign’s main focus was increasing seat belt use, the traffic stops and checkpoints also netted several arrests for other violations.

“One of the indirect benefits is we catch felons and other criminals during traffic stops,” Kimbrough said.

Drug Task Forces Work to Keep Alabama Communities Safe

With more new industries looking to call Alabama home, communities across the state are eager to attract new jobs. As counties, cities and towns pitch themselves as viable candidates for new industries, one consideration for companies looking to expand is public safety. A low crime rate can be a factor in location decisions.

Fortunately, specialized law enforcement units across the state are working every day to make their communities safer by reducing the impact of drugs and violent crime.

Through the Byrne Memorial-Justice Assistance Grant program, ADECA’s Law Enforcement and Traffic Safety Division supports 37 drug and violent crime task forces in Alabama. The task forces improve the health and safety of communities throughout the state by removing drug traffickers and users from the streets.

The Etowah County Drug Enforcement Unit was one task force that received funding from ADECA to support its operations in fiscal year 2007. A \$160,000 grant helped the unit continue its undercover operations, intensive investigations and other activities to arrest and prosecute drug offenders.

The unit’s agents targeted the manufacture and distribution of methamphetamine and the distribution of crack cocaine and marijuana in the county. The task force also worked with doctors and pharmacies to combat prescription drug fraud.

In an effort to dismantle large drug trafficking networks, the Etowah County unit frequently

participates in cooperative investigations with state and federal agencies as well as other drug task forces. One such investigation conducted in September 2007 was Operation Clean Sweep.

Coordinated by the FBI, Operation Clean Sweep targeted drug offenders and gang members in a five-county area in northeast Alabama, including Etowah County. With more than 30 law enforcement agencies represented, the effort resulted in more than 350 arrests, the recovery of 16 stolen vehicles and the seizure of 30 illegal firearms and a variety of illegal drugs.

“This operation was very large in scale and took careful planning,” District Attorney Jimmie Harp said. “Over 120 felony arrests were made in Etowah County alone. The cooperation between the FBI, state and local law enforcement was excellent and the operation has already made a tremendous impact on narcotics and violent criminal activity in Etowah County.”

The intelligence and information gathered during the operation also opened many new leads for drug investigations in the county, task force officials said.

By working together and combining intelligence and resources, Alabama’s drug task forces are protecting their communities and improving public safety. With support from LETS, the task forces continue dedicating resources and manpower to make Alabama an even safer place to live and do business.

Appalachian Regional Commission

MISSION

To create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life in Appalachia by increasing job opportunities and per capita income, strengthening the capacity of the people of Appalachia to compete in the global economy, improving Appalachia's infrastructure and building the Appalachian Development Highway System to reduce Appalachia's isolation.

Programs Administered

- Appalachian Regional Development
- Appalachian Area Development
- Appalachian Research, Technical Assistance and Demonstration Projects

Kid One Meets the Challenges of Our Children

In 1997 Russell Jackson desperately sought to revive a 5-year-old who had become choked. The child died leaving Jackson to vow that he would do something to make a difference in the lives of children.

As a result, Kid One Transport was born. The Birmingham-based service organization provides transportation, mainly for impoverished children and expectant mothers to non-emergency health care appointments.

"Each day in Alabama literally thousands of families sit idle wondering how they will get their child to the doctor when they become ill and have no means of transportation," said Jackson.

Aided by funding from the Appalachian Regional Commission, Kid One has been able to expand into some of the state's poorer counties. Created by Congress in 1965 ARC is a partnership of federal, state and local governments dedicated to improving life for residents in 13 states, including Alabama. In Alabama, the program is

administered by the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs. "Although the need for the services of Kid One Transport is overwhelming and nowhere near being met, I can say the return on ADECA's investment into Kid One is truly priceless," said Jackson.

Since its beginning, Kid One has logged nearly 3 million miles and served more than 22,500 clients in about half of the state's 67 counties.

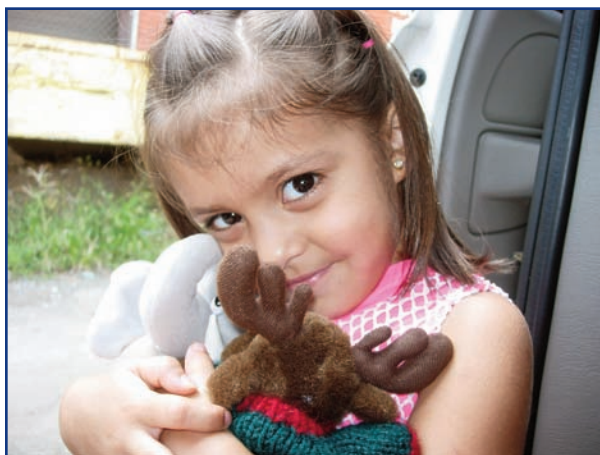
Transport needs range from standard medical checkups to kidney dialysis treatments. The organization hopes to eventually serve the entire state and expand into other states. The service is especially necessary in Alabama's poor Black Belt counties.

"We are able to bridge the gap between health care providers and the children that need the care but don't have access to it," said Tracy Smith, chief executive of Kid One.

ARC helps fund a wide variety of programs in 37 Alabama counties. It has been instrumental in funding infrastructure necessary for new or expanding industries, supplying essential services such as public water, sewer and road improvements to communities and helping improve education.



ARC funding has enabled Kid One to expand its coverage in Alabama.



Kid One provides transportation for mainly impoverished children and expectant mothers for health-care related services.

Governor's Resources and Economic Assistance Programs

MISSION

To enhance local economic and community development activities by promoting economic development incentives with an emphasis on small and minority-owned businesses and providing resources for effective planning and implementation.

Programs Administered

- Renewal Communities
- Gulf Opportunity Zone Credit Program
- Community and Economic Development Technical Assistance
- Alabama Enterprise Zones
- Delta Regional Authority
- Minority Business Enterprises
- Enterprise Communities

Governor's Resources and Economic Assistance Programs Helps to Meet the Challenges of a Growing Alabama

Ensuring that businesses, especially those owned by minorities or located in economically distressed areas, have a chance to succeed is one of the major goals of the Governor's Resources and Economic Assistance Programs division.

The division not only provides direct assistance to business owners, it often steers them toward other programs that may be available to assist them. In some instances, the division is able to obtain grants to help low-income areas with economic development.

The division manages Alabama's role in the Delta Regional Authority, which was created by Congress in 2000 to strengthen economies in low-income areas in portions of eight states. Twenty counties in Alabama are eligible for funding or assistance through the DRA. Alabama counties served by DRA are Barbour, Bullock, Butler, Choctaw, Clarke, Conecuh, Dallas, Escambia, Greene, Hale, Lowndes, Macon, Marengo, Monroe, Perry, Pickens, Russell, Sumter, Washington and Wilcox.

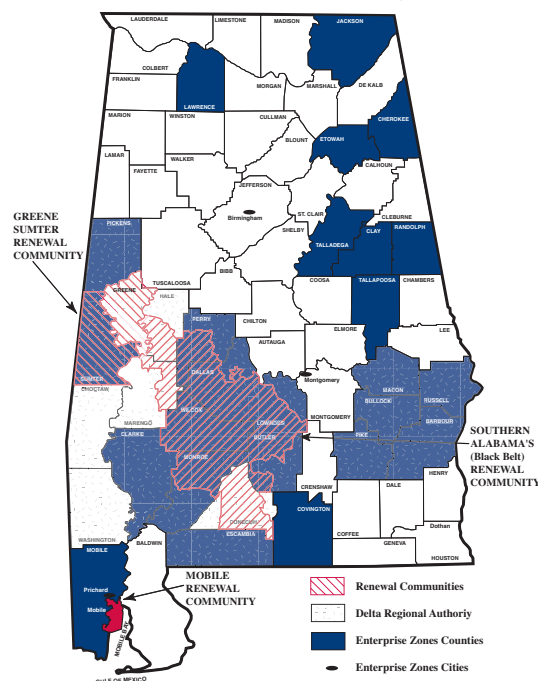
Another REAP initiative is the Alabama Enterprise Zone program which offers state-level tax credits and exemptions to businesses in targeted areas. The program's goal is to encourage businesses to build or expand in economically depressed areas and encourage the hiring of employees. Bolstering businesses and helping them to succeed in turn improves other commerce and the economic fortunes of communities and regions.

The Minority Business Enterprises Program helps provide minority business owners with markets for their products and services. Upon a

business's certification, the program gives business owners an advantage when marketing goods. The certification also provides business owners access to a variety of programs specifically developed for struggling businesses. These programs also provide technical assistance.

REAP also works with the Alabama Black Belt Action Commission to improve economies and living conditions in 12 Alabama counties and surrounding areas that make up Alabama's Black Belt. The Black Belt is an area stretching across south-central Alabama and much of the area has high unemployment and school dropout rates, poverty and insufficient health care.

Governor's Resources and Economic Assistance Programs Areas



Alabama Recreational Programs

MISSION

To generate outdoor recreation opportunities, to strengthen the health and vitality of Alabama's population, and foster sound planning and investment strategies to protect, expand and ensure the quality of outdoor recreation.

Programs Administered

- Land & Water Conservation Fund
- Recreational Trail Program

Recreation Grants Enhance Alabama Communities

When Excel Mayor Jenny Countryman visits the city's trail in Murphy Park, she always encounters other residents.

"When I was through there the other day there were six baby strollers being pushed by moms and dads, someone being pulled in a wagon, four people skating, a child on a bicycle and numerous walkers," Countryman said. "It's that way all the time. Any given day there is someone on that trail."

The trail is a 3,465-foot-long asphalt path that winds through the park, and according to Countryman it is like the crown of the municipal recreational area. The trail was built with help from a \$43,240 Recreational Trail grant.

"We have trees and benches around it. It's beautiful," said Countryman. "You see a lot of smiles. Everywhere I go someone says thank you."

For years Recreational Trail and Land and Water Conservation Fund grants administered through ADECA have provided Alabama cities and towns with facilities designed to encourage outdoor activities and exercise. The grants also improve the quality of life in communities, provide a venue for special events that attract residents and

tourists, are environmental friendly and help communities address recreational challenges.

LWCF grants have been used in Alabama to build baseball, softball and soccer fields, develop playgrounds and pavilions and create elaborate recreational water features. ADECA receives funds for the program from the U.S. Department of Interior.

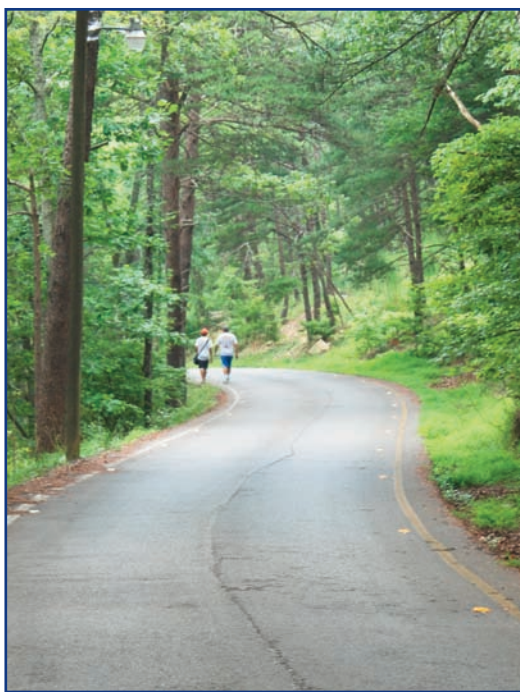
Recreational Trail grants, funded through the U.S. Department of Transportation, help purchase land and develop property for a variety of trail types ranging from wilderness trails to multi-purpose paved surfaces. In some areas of Alabama grants have been used to fund trails dedicated primarily for motorized vehicles like motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles.

Recreational Trail and LWCF grants are awarded on a competitive basis. LWCF grants require recipients to provide funding equal to or

exceeding the amount of the grant.

Countryman said while the town's Recreational Trail grant required "a lot of paperwork" and accountability, it was well worth the effort.

"You can't walk it without looking at the sky and thanking God to be alive," she said.



Trail and park grants have helped improve Alabama communities and provide recreation opportunities.

Legal

MISSION

To provide advice, risk management, litigation and other legal services to the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

Programs Administered
• Legal • General Services

Legal Section Provides Guidance to ADECA Programs

Legal documents issued by ADECA flow through the department's Legal Section for review. Painstaking examination ensures that ADECA, grant recipients and associated agencies adhere to all laws and pertinent regulations.

The staff carefully reviews legislative bills and acts to determine their effect on ADECA-related programs and functions. The section makes sure ADECA employees are familiar with existing, amended and new laws.

The Legal Section provides legal guidance for all ADECA divisions by helping to formulate documents and interpret technical issues along with providing advice on how to proceed through any given legal

situation. The section also represents ADECA in administrative law hearings, litigation and all court-related matters.

The staff works with Human Resources to ensure that all matters, sensitive or otherwise, involving ADECA employees are conducted according to state and agency policies and procedures. Attorneys also ensure compliance with federal and state employment laws.

General Services, which is part of the Legal Section, handles the department's mail and parcels, interoffice correspondence and oversees distribution of office supplies for ADECA.

Human Resources

MISSION

To effectively administer ADECA's personnel needs and use all available resources to provide current and potential employees with the highest quality of personnel-related services.

Human Resources is the Backbone of ADECA's Ability to Improve Alabama

Every route involving employment at ADECA begins and ends with Human Resources. The section assists divisions in hiring, transferring, promoting and recognizing employees. Retiring employees also rely on Human Resources for guidance on benefits and other measures that can make retirement more enjoyable.

The section aids divisions by supplying supervisors with lists of qualified applicants available to fill positions necessary for ADECA to fully function as a state agency. Human Resources also steps in when new positions are created or existing positions are expanded. ADECA Human Resources, in cooperation with the Alabama State

Personnel Department, updates job duties and skill requirements and performs other functions to enable ADECA to better serve the citizens of Alabama.

Through Human Resources, supervisors and employees are notified of specialized training for job improvement, updated interviewing and hiring processes and performance appraisals. The office also is consulted for guidance on disciplinary measures.

ADECA employees also are encouraged to regularly consult with the section to receive updated information on benefits, job description and personal and sick leave.

Alabama Communications and Information

MISSION

To foster ADECA's mission of Building Better Alabama Communities by informing and educating the public, providing support to all of ADECA's divisions and encouraging participation in community service projects.

Programs Administered

• Public Information • Census Bureau Liaison • Graphic Arts • Legislation • Charitable Campaigns

Communications Provides Support for Divisions; Informs Public

When the drought hit Alabama in the summer of 2007 it made news – big news. Devastated crops, wildfires, water wars and water restrictions made headlines across Alabama and the United States.

ADECA's Office of Water Resources found itself working overtime to coordinate efforts to cope with the water shortage. To fully assess the problem, they needed to carefully monitor news coverage of the drought and its impact on Alabama residents.

Fortunately the Communications and Information Division was able to offer some much needed support. As part of daily updates to @ADECA, an electronic newsletter for employees, CID staffers review media outlets for news impacting ADECA programs. Relevant news items are incorporated into the online newsletter and are available immediately to employees.

OWR Director Brian Atkins said this resource proved to be a necessary tool in the day-to-day operations of his office.

"The @ADECA media coverage page has been invaluable for OWR during the historic drought we have experienced this year," Atkins said. "Part of OWR's mission is to monitor drought impacts and coordinate drought response efforts, and the @ADECA media coverage saved us a lot of time in that we can go to one source for newspaper reports to help us get this information. We really appreciate all of the time that CID spends compiling the news articles for us. It is a tremendous help."

News articles are sorted by program, so any employee can easily locate media coverage related to their area of responsibility.

The newsletter also features stories and

announcements about ADECA divisions and employees, a departmental calendar, a legislative page that keeps track of bills that may affect ADECA and other useful news and features.

CID provides additional support for ADECA's programs by designing and printing manuals, handbooks, pamphlets, reports, forms, posters, signs, business cards and other materials.

In addition to preparing printed materials, CID works with the news media to inform Alabamians about the many ADECA programs that help meet the challenges of a growing state. CID strengthens

the department's public accountability by issuing news releases reporting the award of grants and by responding to media and citizen inquiries about grants and programs. In addition, CID assists the ADECA Director to notify legislators when grants are awarded affecting their districts.

CID represents ADECA in other roles involving the media, other governmental agencies and community charitable organizations. In 2007 and 2008, CID represented ADECA in an advisory role for the publication of "The Alabama Guide," a comprehensive publication about the state that covers Alabama history, geography, industrial development, government and many more subjects.

The CID director serves as the Governor's Liaison with the U.S. Census Bureau, advising the department on census matters, assisting other state agencies and citizens on census data and serving as the state's certifying official for municipal boundary changes and annexations.

Throughout the year, CID staff coordinates charitable fundraising campaigns and blood drives.



Brian Atkins checks media coverage for the Office of Water Resources. CID compiles news clippings to help each ADECA division monitor news and issues concerning their programs.

Financial Services

MISSION

To provide exceptional financial support and accountability to the department and Alabama citizens through accounting, budgeting, procurement, and property management.

Programs Administered

- Fiscal Section
- Payroll
- Property Management

Financial Services Discharges a Long List of Duties

Financial Services may have a simple name, but its duties and responsibilities are far more complex. The section is charged with managing millions of dollars of taxpayers' money and public property. In addition to maintaining and dispersing the payroll for ADECA employees, the section also has hands-on responsibilities involving grants issued through the department.

Financial Services employees are entrusted with developing a budget and ensuring that divisions

and sections maintain good fiscal responsibility with public funds. Employees also are required to keep an accurate inventory of ADECA property and oversee any major purchases or travel expenses for ADECA employees. The section conducts an annual inventory to keep track of state property.

Financial Services also leads the department's participation in the SMART budgeting process. The process is intended to enable taxpayers to see exactly how state funds are spent.

Information Services

MISSION

To provide information technology and telecommunications services and support to ADECA and its stakeholders.

Programs Administered

- PC Support
- Telecommunications
- Operations
- Programming

Information Services Keeps ADECA Technology Sharp

With technology moving at a rapid pace it is imperative to keep up or be left behind. The Information Services Section is the catalyst that keeps ADECA employees at the forefront of telecommunication and information technology and enables them to meet the challenges of a growing Alabama.

The section is responsible for the daily maintenance of the ADECA computer and telecommunications network, including installation of software, correcting technical problems and providing training. In addition, the section works with other divisions and sections to ensure that employees are equipped with suitable programming

to do their jobs effectively and efficiently.

The section works with the state Finance Department's Information Services Division, which manages the state computer network, to assure that statewide programs, policies and procedures involving computer networking are implemented smoothly integrated with ADECA systems.

Information Services employees have assisted ADECA divisions or related programs in making it possible to communicate electronically over long distances and thus eliminate unnecessary transportation costs and save time.

Alabama Rural Action Commission

MISSION

Measurably improve the quality of life in rural Alabama by working with all Alabama citizens and any other supportive parties.

Rural Action Commission Helping Alabama Prepare for Challenges

ADECA provides support for one of Gov. Bob Riley's most ambitious programs. Although still in its infancy, the Alabama Rural Action Commission has made strides in improving the quality of life in Alabama's rural areas.

Molded on the successful Alabama Black Belt Action Commission, the Rural Action Commission is also a volunteer organization, but on a larger scale. The commission is seeking to improve quality of life in Alabama by improving health and education, providing economic development and new jobs.

The commission, headed by former state Sen. Gerald Dial, is composed of eight regions. Each region is composed of two to nine counties and operates independently of other regions. The regions are encouraged to focus on the most pressing challenges facing the region.

Gov. Riley chose a regional approach because it encourages counties, cities and towns to work together to provide positive results beyond city limits and county borders.

The Rural Action Commission is taking a role in helping southwest Alabama prepare for the impact of the ThyssenKrupp plant which is being constructed in Washington County.

Another Rural Action Commission project is preparing communities for the growth expected from the completion of Corridor X or Interstate 22 in northwest Alabama. The new road will improve transportation from Birmingham to Memphis, Tenn.

ADECA's Communications and Information Division supports the Rural Action Commission through the design, editing and distribution of printed materials and news releases.



Gov. Bob Riley announced the need and formation of the Alabama Rural Action Commission in 2007

Alabama Advantage

MISSION

To promote Alabama communities and tout the advantages of living and working in Alabama.

Program Seeks to Draw Retirees to Alabama

For years the Alabama Advantage program sought to attract retirees and other interested parties into Alabama – if not to live, at least to visit.

But Alabama's recent success in attracting high-profile industries added another assignment to the program: Show others that Alabama is not only a good place to live, it also is a wonderful

place to work.

"We have a unique opportunity in this state right now to attract people seeking jobs," said ADECA Director Bill Johnson. "We are changing our image around the world. We have retooled Alabama Advantage to show that Alabama is a

(Continued on page 22)

(Continued from page 22)

great place to work.”

The ADECA program offers annual week-long expos in Gulf Shores and Montgomery enabling Alabama counties, cities and towns to showcase their communities. Additionally the program provides a Web site, www.alabamaadvantage.com, and publishes a once-a-year magazine touting the advantages of living in Alabama.



Black Belt Treasurer's is one of many participants at Alabama Advantage exhibitions.

Jan Wood, executive director of the Wetumpka Chamber of Commerce, said that her city has no way to gauge how effective the program has been in attracting newcomers to the Elmore County community, but it does not hurt.

“I think any time we have the opportunity to put our name out in public in a positive manner then we need to take advantage of that,” said Wood.

Community Partnership Re-entry & Recovery

MISSION

To help former inmates make a successful transition from prison to civilian life.

Program Helps Individuals, Communities Deal with Adversity

Ken Burroughs likes to look people in the face when facing them. That may explain why he was so disturbed when Ashley Lane didn't acknowledge his nod when he passed her in the hall of The Lovelady Center, a faith-based rehabilitation center for women and children in Birmingham.

“She was looking down,” Burroughs recalled. “When she finally looked up I saw she was missing an eye.”

No message had to be relayed. Burroughs, a member of the Gov. Bob Riley's Community Partnership program, understood. He immediately went to work.

Six weeks later Ashley was provided a prosthetic eye at no charge thanks to the work of Burroughs, the program and Lions Club International.

“I feel like a brand new person,” Ashley said. “I feel like I got my life back.”

Ashley, 32, lost her eye as a result of an accident with a cleaning solution for contact lenses. Around the same time, she relapsed into a drug habit.

“I got back on drugs and violated my probation and was sent to prison,” she said.

She was later transferred to Lovelady Center to help in the transition from prison to civilian life. She has since obtained a civilian job as part of the transition.

The Community Partnership program has been

fundamental in helping the Lovelady Center establish a library for tenants and their children.

The program has also helped communities rebound from disasters. The program also has been instrumental in helping the city of Enterprise dig



Community Partnership has been instrumental in helping the Lovelady Center transitional program.

out from a devastating tornado that destroyed much of the high school and surrounding housing area.

More recently the program has sought the assistance of faith-based organizations to make the program more successful.

Black Belt Action Commission

MISSION

Measurably improve the quality of life in Alabama's Black Belt Region by actively working with all citizens of Alabama and any other supportive parties.

Black Belt Action Commission Making a Difference in Alabama

Not long ago, if you lived in Perry County and needed medical care about your only option was to travel to Selma, Tuscaloosa or Demopolis for treatment.

The Alabama Black Belt Action Commission



The Black Belt Action Commission sponsored several medical and eye-care screenings throughout the Black Belt region.

has made the path to wellness a little shorter. The commission's Health Committee has brought health care to the county through a series of health fairs and free screenings.

"We realize that we have a long way to go to improve our health care, but this program has made a significant impact," said Frances Ford, executive director of Sowing Seeds of Hope, a group established to improve living conditions in Perry County and a partner with the Black Belt Action Commission. "It has brought health care to our community, and it has made a difference in just increasing awareness."

The all-volunteer commission has offered eye and general health screenings and free follow-up treatments.

Created by Gov. Bob Riley in 2004, the commission was set up to improve living conditions in a 12-county area across south-central Alabama

that has been marked by poverty, high drop-out and unemployment rates, insufficient health care and declining populations.

From the beginning, ADECA has provided support services for the Black Belt Action Commission, including help with publications, publicity and logistics. ADECA Assistant Director Doni Ingram serves as the commission's executive director.

Gov. Riley's goal in starting the commission was to uplift Alabama. Commission committees have successfully marketed and opened outlets for products made by Black Belt residents, introduced cultural programs, organized youth sports and made improvements to schools, parks and public buildings.

"We are so appreciative to Gov. Bob Riley for having the initiative and vision to do something and to all the volunteers who have helped accomplish the goals," said Ford, who is also a Black Belt commission volunteer.



The acting duo of Malik and Vassie Welback-Browne of Eutaw participated in events to interest Black Belt students in the arts.

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

2006-2007 Federal Receipts and Disbursements

Federal Grantor / Program Title	Receipts	Expenditures
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE		
Economic Development-Support for Planning Organizations	326,000.00	290,678.37
Economic Adjustment Assistance	40,000.00	390,000.00
Unallied Industry Projects	134,037.22	134,037.22
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT		
Community Development Block Grants/State's Program	47,269,492.13	47,303,467.40
Emergency Shelter Grants Program	1,522,950.83	1,523,617.64
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS	1,295,976.12	1,300,065.95
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR		
National Park Service		
Outdoor Recreation-Acquisition, Development and Planning	1,188,776.32	1,041,347.77
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		
Prisoner Reentry Initiative Demonstration (Offender Reentry)	594,730.50	595,401.27
Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants	668,101.36	768,374.32
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention-Allocation to States	864,379.39	865,234.88
Title V-Delinquency Prevention Program	104,376.71	104,310.07
National Institute of Justice Research, Evaluation, Development Project Grants	294,915.71	295,140.84
Crime Victim Assistance	5,774,439.79	5,774,602.74
Edward Byrne Memorial Formula Grant Program	355,033.53	353,690.83
Violent Offender Incarceration and Truth in Sentencing Incentive Grants	3,796,568.35	3,796,408.61
Violence Against Women Formula Grants	1,893,376.89	1,894,493.18
Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders	570,662.23	570,662.23
Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program	(109.39)	
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners	930,688.80	934,940.16
Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program	24,262.76	19,184.00
Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants	30,708.05	30,708.05
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program	336,625.76	336,609.99
Protecting Inmates and Safeguarding Communities Discretionary Grant Program	83,835.07	83,835.07
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	5,092,704.46	5,519,214.66
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR		
Employment Service/Wagner-Peyser Funded Activities	(1,837.50)	(1,837.50)
Employment Services and Job Training Pilots-Demonstrations and Research	(15,236.44)	(15,236.44)
Workforce Investment Act		
Adult Program	13,072,717.17	13,147,115.49
Youth Activities	12,754,859.28	13,148,581.25
Dislocated Workers	16,373,746.46	16,930,203.98
Pilots, Demonstrations, and Research Projects	4,148,298.50	4,112,435.81
Work Incentive Grants	102,215.46	96,214.42
Incentive Grants - WIA Section 503	301,961.56	613,508.94
Disability Employment Policy Development	226,347.79	224,279.73

Federal Grantor / Program Title	Receipts	Expenditures
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION		
Recreational Trails Program	2,378,479.14	2,356,416.72
State and Community Highway Safety	3,990,646.07	3,946,446.74
Occupant Protection	304,722.97	304,722.97
Safety Incentive Grants for Use of Seatbelts	70,660.44	70,552.70
Safety Incentives to Prevent Operation of Motor Vehicles by Intoxicated Persons	587,015.32	946,545.85
Safety Belt Performance Grants (New Program)	913,165.69	913,165.69
APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION		
Appalachian Area Development	365,624.57	365,624.57
Appalachian Research, Technical Assistance, and Demonstration Projects	121,190.12	130,526.30
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION		
Donation of Federal Surplus Personal Property	24,846,849.00	26,928,778.00
	value of property-not cash received	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY		
State Energy Program	752,775.19	752,775.19
Weatherization Assistance for Low-Income Persons	2,585,009.32	2,514,280.22
Regional Biomass Energy Programs	34,292.28	34,268.16
Conservation Research and Development	-	4,100.00
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Information Dissemination	54,884.20	47,080.66
State Energy Program Special Projects	119,112.94	119,112.94
Other Federal Assistance		
Citronelle	(16,672.76)	
Crude Oil Refund	4,519.00	
Exxon	(1,809.98)	3,941.30
Second Stage	(14,817.05)	
Strip Oil	45,663.98	149,885.91
Texaco	(672,561.44)	(709,742.79)
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities-State Grants	1,043,338.98	1,095,256.43
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance	23,500,432.61	22,915,617.12
Community Services Block Grant	11,997,878.90	11,915,350.66
Community Services Block - Community Food and Nutrition Programs	32,894.54	32,894.54
Empowerment Zones Program	309,863.12	309,863.12
Family Violence Prevention and Services/Grants for Battered Women's Shelters	1,454,395.44	1,454,302.31
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY		
Community Assistance Program State Support Services Element (CAP-SSSE)	127,504.22	140,196.30
Cooperating Technical Partners	2,895,015.89	2,895,015.89
Map Modernization Management Support	265,818.95	265,818.95
TOTAL FEDERAL ASSISTANCE	198,251,496.52	202,084,087.38

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

2007-2008 Federal Receipts and Disbursements

Federal Grantor/Program Title	Receipts	Expenditures
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE		
Economic Development-Support for Planning Organizations	10,000.00	
Economic Adjustment Assistance	10,000.00	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT		
Community Development Block Grants/State's Program	45,621,870.93	45,563,164.87
Emergency Shelter Grants Program	1,259,311.97	1,259,245.95
Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS	1,637,955.81	1,636,030.45
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR		
U S Geological Survey_ Research and Data Collection (New Program)	16,844.44	19,730.88
National Park Service		
Outdoor Recreation-Acquisition, Development and Planning	1,032,382.86	1,179,811.41
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		
Prisoner Reentry Initiative Demonstration (Offender Reentry)		(7,097.64)
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants	671,876.38	643,925.10
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention-Allocation to States	971,851.22	971,252.92
Title V-Delinquency Prevention Program	66,076.11	66,088.22
National Institute of Justice Research, Evaluation and Development Project Grants	5,096.37	4,871.41
Crime Victim Assistance	5,921,680.24	5,920,795.49
Edward Byrne Memorial Formula Grant Program	23,355.54	23,367.23
Violence Against Women Formula Grants	2,185,422.39	2,185,982.51
Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies and Enforcement of Protection Orders	553,387.03	553,387.03
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners	189,940.12	185,577.10
Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants	266,884.68	266,884.68
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program	378,767.05	379,043.13
Protecting Inmates and Safeguarding Communities Discretionary Grant Program	280,834.17	280,834.17
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	8,581,719.29	10,343,576.15
Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grant Program	256,293.71	256,293.71
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR		
WIA Adult Program	9,546,128.94	9,832,003.71
WIA Youth Activities	12,280,453.66	12,067,932.76
WIA Dislocated Workers	9,810,327.50	9,889,398.16
Pilots, Demonstrations, and Research Projects	6,280,134.11	6,274,390.42
Work Incentive Grants	569,897.54	572,807.08
Incentive Grants - WIA Section 503	(3,265.99)	(3,265.99)
Community Based Job Training	2,427.32	1,871.88
Disability Employment Policy Development	(2,435.53)	(2,435.53)

Federal Grantor / Program Title	Receipts	Expenditures
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION		
Recreational Trails Program	1,967,819.71	1,966,424.88
State and Community Highway Safety	3,268,084.81	3,301,770.99
Alcohol Traffic Safety and Drunk Driving Prevention Incentive Grants	789,746.54	789,746.54
Occupant Protection	327,056.91	327,056.91
Safety Incentive Grants for Use of Seatbelts	373.54	373.54
Safety Belt Performance Grants	1,562,342.55	1,562,342.55
State Traffic Safety Information System Improvement Grants	730,992.81	704,547.08
APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION		
Appalachian Area Development	563,404.19	563,404.19
Appalachian Research, Technical Assistance, and Demonstration Projects	136,406.99	136,471.75
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION		
Donation of Federal Surplus Personal Property	34,530,210.00	29,734,988.00
	value of property-not cash received	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY		
State Energy Program	780,321.69	780,321.69
Weatherization Assistance for Low-Income Persons	2,158,827.74	2,228,152.48
Conservation Research and Development	11,509.66	7,409.66
State Energy Program Special Projects	48,619.19	48,619.19
Other Federal Assistance		
Citronelle	16,734.98	6,676.40
Exxon	35,534.31	56,445.47
Second Stage	13,742.73	
Strip Oil	68,926.60	161,393.87
Texaco	200,024.53	142,615.08
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION		
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities-State Grants	1,031,944.53	1,040,319.22
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		
Low-Income Home Energy Assistance	22,121,909.21	22,725,599.42
Community Services Block Grant	11,239,849.70	11,406,071.06
Empowerment Zones Program	137,721.38	137,721.38
Family Violence Prevention and Services/Grants for Battered Women's Shelters	1,391,270.25	1,391,535.07
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY		
Community Assistance Program State Support Services Element (CAP)	108,404.42	99,591.70
Cooperating Technical Partners	4,480,063.47	4,487,171.13
Map Modernization Management Support	217,136.99	210,029.33
TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS	196,364,197.29	194,382,265.84

Get Connected to ADECA Services

ADECA	334-242-5100
Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)	256-845-3472
Audit	334-242-5470
Communications & Information (CID)	334-242-5525
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	334-242-0492
Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)	334-353-4023
Energy (ED)	334-242-5290
Financial Services (FS)	334-242-5729
Gov.'s Resources & Economic Assistance Programs (REAP) ...	334-242-5370
Human Resources	334-242-5251
Information Services (IS)	334-242-5529
Law Enforcement & Traffic Safety (LETS)	334-242-5897
Legal Services	334-242-5255
Office of Water Resources (OWR)	334-242-4991
Program Integrity	334-242-5470
Recreational Programs	334-242-5483
Surplus Property	334-277-5866
Workforce Development Division(WDD)	334-242-5300
Alabama Advantage	334-242-5469
Alabama Rural Action Commission (ARAC)	334-353-8286
Black Belt Action Commission	334-353-5682
Community Partnership Re-entry & Recovery	334-353-2043